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WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 1998 No. 1998/222

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Wednesday, 18 November 1998

SECURITY COUNCIL

10.30 a.m.	consultations of the whole (closed)	Consultation Room

The situation in Africa (S/1998/813)

Other matters

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

10 a.m.	61st PLENARY MEETING	General Assembly Hall

1. Bethlehem 2000: draft resolution (A/53/L.37) [157].

2. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development [44]:

   (a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/288, A/53/315, A/53/421 and Corr.1 (English only));

   (b) Draft resolutions (A/53/L.20, A/53/L.22/Rev.2).

Committees

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

10 a.m.-1 p.m. — 22nd meeting — Conference Room 2

1. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and other Arabs of the Occupied Territories [84] (A/53/136 and Add.1*, A/53/259, A/53/260, A/53/264, A/53/660, A/53/661, A/C.4/53/L.16 to L.20)

   General debate

2. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [18]

   Question of Guam (A/53/23 (Part VIII), chap. XII, para. 9))

3. Implementation of human rights instruments [110 (a)]

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/53/L.22/Rev.1 and L.23 (programme budget implications contained in A/C.3/53/L.62)

4. Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [110 (b)]

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/53/L.33, L.40, L.46 and L.50

5. Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives [110 (c)]

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/53/L.38, L.43, L.51 and L.61

6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women [104]

   Action on draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.27

* To be issued

THIRD COMMITTEE

3 p.m.-6 p.m. — 49th meeting — Conference Room 1

1. Report of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [105]

   Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.53

2. Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [110 (b)]

   Introduction of draft resolutions A/C.3/53/L.39, L.49, L.57 and L.58

3. Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives [110 (c)]

   Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.60

4. Report of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [105]

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/53/L.52, L.54 and L.55

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m. — 29th meeting — Conference Room 3

1. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone [163]

   Action on draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.14

2. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations [118]

   Action on draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.13

   Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.13 (A/C.5/53/35)

   Introduction and general discussion

3. Human resources management [119] (A/53/501, A/C.5/52/2, A/52/814, A/53/266, A/53/327, A/53/342, A/53/375 and Corr.1 and Corr.2 (French only), A/53/385, A/53/414, A/53/502, A/53/526 and Add.1, A/53/548 and A/C.5/53/L.3)

   Continuation of general discussion

4. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors [111] (A/52/5 (Vol. II), A/53/5 (Vol. I, III and IV), A/53/5/Add.1-10, A/52/879, A/52/ 811, A/53/217, A/53/335 and Add.1, A/53/513, A/52/867 and A/53/508)

Continuation of general discussion

Morning*- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 113 (Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: Development Account (A/52/1009 and A/53/7/Add.1))

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 145 (Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B)

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* Following the adjournment of the 29th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

SIXTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 4
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 4

Informal consultations on the draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 155 (Measures to eliminate international terrorism)

Afternoon*- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 4

Informal consultations on agenda item 148 (Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property)

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* Following the adjournment of the informal consultations on the draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 155.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subject

Standards of accommodation for air travail

UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

10.30 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Room DC2-469
2.30 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Room DC2-469

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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Wednesday, 18 November 1998

GROUP OF 77
(on Fifth Committee matters)

9 a.m.- 9.45 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 5
1.45 p.m.- 2.45 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 5

AFRICAN GROUP OF THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION

9.15 a.m.- 10 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8

MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES:

WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS

9.30 a.m.- 11.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room D

GROUP OF 77
(Brainstorming session of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification)

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7
3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8

GROUP OF 77
(Bali Declaration and Plan of Action on regional and sub-regional economic cooperation)

1.45 p.m.- 2.45 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

2 p.m.- 5 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7

ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE:

CONTACT GROUP ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES:

COORDINATING BUREAU

4 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 2

GROUP OF 77 OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(Coordination meeting on all relevant draft resolutions of the Second Committee)

6.15 p.m.- 8 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 6

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There will be a meeting of the International Association of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations (IAPR) *today*, 18 November 1998, from 11.30 a.m. to 1 pm. in Conference Room 8.

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Informal consultations

There will be informal consultations on the draft resolution under agenda item 38 (b) (Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments) *today*, 18 November 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room D.

* * *

Informal meeting

There will be an informal meeting on the World Conference on Racism, organized by the International NGO Committee on Human Rights, *today*, 18 November 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room A. The panellists include Mrs. Elsa Stamatopoulou, Deputy Director, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, New York, and Mrs. Mwila Grace Banda Chigaga, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff and representatives of non-governmental organizations are invited to attend.

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Announcement

As from Wednesday, 4 November 1998, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place at 1.15 p.m., or shortly after the adjournment of the informal consultations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, 19 November 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

10 a.m. — 62nd PLENARY MEETING — General Assembly Hall

1. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991: note by the Secretary-General transmitting the fifth annual report of the International Tribunal (A/53/219) [48].

2. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development: draft resolution (A/53/L.34) [37].

3 p.m. — 63rd PLENARY MEETING — General Assembly Hall

Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters: draft resolution (A/53/L.16) [59].

Committees

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

10 a.m.	23rd meeting	Conference Room 2
3 p.m.	24th meeting	Conference Room 2

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

THIRD COMMITTEE

3 p.m.	50th meeting	Conference Room 1

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	30th meeting	Conference Room 3
Morning*	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

* Following the adjournment of the 30th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

SIXTH COMMITTEE

3 p.m.	34th meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20)

Informal Consultations on draft proposals under item 20 and its sub-items will be conducted by H.E. Mr. Jørgen Bøjer (Denmark) on Friday, 20 November 1998, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 8.

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International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People will hold a solemn meeting from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, 30 November 1998, in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/40B of 2 December 1977.

All Member States, United Nations bodies and agencies and observers are invited to attend and send messages of solidarity to room S-3362 (United Nations Headquarters).

Exhibition

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations will present a Palestinian cultural exhibit entitled "Bethlehem 2000," in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The exhibit will be displayed in the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building from Monday, 30 November, to Sunday, 6 December 1998.

The formal opening of the exhibit is scheduled for Monday, 30 November 1998, at 6 p.m. in the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building.

Screening of films

In observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People has arranged the screening of the film entitled "Al Nakba: Palestinian Catastrophe, 1948" on Monday, 30 November, at 1 p.m. at the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium. The same film as well as a film entitled "Journey to Bethlehem 2000", can be viewed at the cultural exhibit area from 1 to 4 December 1998.

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The 1999 organizational session of the Disarmament Commission will take place on Wednesday, 2 December 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 4. All Member States are invited to attend.

* * *

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Technical Group of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will meet, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Kamal (Pakistan), on Tuesday, 24 November 1998, at 10 a.m. sharp in Conference Room B.

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The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations will hold its resumed 1998 session from 14 to 18 December 1998 in Conference Room 1. The agenda is contained in document E/C.2/1998/1.

* * *

Convention to Combat Desertification

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Second session

List of speakers

The second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification will take place in Dakar, Senegal, from 30 November to 11 December 1998. The special segment on ways and means by which the Conference of the Parties could promote timely and effective implementation of the Convention will be held on 8 and 9 December 1998. Statements at this segment will be open to Parties and observers with representation at the appropriate level.

It is suggested that the average time for each statement should not exceed 6 minutes.

A list of speakers will also be open in Dakar on Monday, 30 November, for other statements by Parties and observers in the Plenary during the first week of the session.

The list of speakers for the special segment is open in New York. Delegations wishing to inscribe on the list of speakers for this segment are requested to contact the office of the Secretary of the Conference of the Parties (Ms. June Chesney, tel.: (212) 963-5742, fax: (212) 963-5935).

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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There will be a meeting of the Arab Group *(at the ambassadorial level)* on Friday, 20 November 1998, at 11 a.m. in Conference Room 8.

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There will be a meeting of the Group of 77 *(on the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (organization of work))* on Monday, 23 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 7

* * *

Informal consultations

There will be informal consultations on the draft resolution on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, organized by the delegation of Austria, on Thursday, 19 November 1998, at 11 a.m. in Conference Room C. All interested delegations are invited to attend.

* * *

Informal presentations

There will be a presentation by Dr. Mário Soares, former President of Portugal and current Chairman of the Independent World Commission on the Oceans, on the activities of the Commission and on its report entitled "The Oceans...Our Future". The presentation, organized by the Permanent Mission of Portugal, will take place on Thursday, 19 November 1998, at 11 a.m. in *Conference Room 4*. All interested delegates and Secretariat staff are invited to attend. A briefing for non-governmental organizations will be held on the same day at 3.30 p.m. in Conference Room 8.

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There will be an informal presentation, organized by the World Bank on "*World Development Report 1998/99*: Knowledge for Development" on Tuesday, 24 November 1998, from 1.30 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 7. Mr. Carl Dahlman, Director of the *World Development Report 1998/99*, and Ms. Tara Wishwanath, a member of the report development team, will make the presentation. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

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Symposium

A symposium on a Universal Networking Language (an electronic language accessible to Internet users and compatible with standard network servers), organized by the Institute of Advanced Studies of the United Nations University, will be held on Thursday, 19 November 1998, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 4. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

* * *

Informal briefing

In connection with the work of the Intergovernmental Forum of Forests (IFF), an informal briefing by the delegations of Costa Rica and Canada on their intersessional initiative in support of Category III of the programme of work of the Intergovernmental Forum (International arrangements and mechanisms to promote management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests) will be held on Friday, 20 November 1998, at 1.15 p.m. in Conference Room 6. Members of permanent missions and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Monday, 16 November 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

Committees

THIRD COMMITTEE 47th meeting

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women [104]

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.27

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Victoria Sandru (Romania), reported on the outcome of informal consultations and orally corrected the draft resolution.

The Chairman made a statement.

Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [110 (b)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

Introduction of draft resolutions

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.32

The representative of Ireland, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Cameroon and Japan, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.35

The representative of Brazil, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document as well as Guinea-Bissau and Senegal, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.36

The representative of Cuba introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.37

The representative of Norway, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document as well as Armenia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Iceland, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Uruguay, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.40

The representative of Peru, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Italy, Japan, Mali, Nepal, Pakistan, Portugal, Sierra Leone and Ukraine, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.41

The representative of Finland, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Croatia, Monaco, Panama and Ukraine, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.42

The Secretary made a technical correction to the draft resolution.

The representative of Belgium, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Cameroon, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Panama, the Philippines, Senegal, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced and corrected the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.44

The representative of Cuba, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as the Niger and the Sudan, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.48

The representative of Turkey, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Bolivia, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, India, the Philippines and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, introduced the draft resolution.

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [110 (e)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.45

The representative of South Africa, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as the Bahamas, Belgium, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Slovenia, Swaziland, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland introduced the draft resolution.

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [105]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

Action on draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.30

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

The representative of Mozambique orally corrected the draft resolution.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected, without a vote.

Action on draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.31

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

Cameroon, Guinea, Liberia, Malawi, Sierra Leone and the United Republic of Tanzania joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination [108]

Action on draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.18/Rev.1 and programme budget implications contained in A/C.3/53/L.56

The representative of Slovenia orally revised the revised draft resolution.

Cameroon, Ireland and Mali joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised.

Following statements by the representatives of Egypt and Algeria, the Committee adopted the revised draft resolution, as orally revised.

Statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, the United States and Ecuador.

The Committee then concluded its consideration of the item.

Right of peoples to self-determination [109]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

*Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.26**

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Malta, Mozambique and the Niger joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

Following statements by the representatives of the United States and Israel, the Committee adopted the draft resolution by a recorded vote of 146 to 2, with 7 abstentions.

After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Russian Federation.

The representative of Austria (on behalf of the European Union) made a statement.

The observer for Palestine made a statement

The Committee then concluded its consideration of the item.

Human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives [110 (c)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

*Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.34**

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

It was announced that Chile, Estonia and the Marshall Islands had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The representatives of Egypt, the Sudan, Yemen, Iraq and Fiji spoke in explanation of vote before the vote.

The representative of the Russian Federation made a statement during the course of which he requested a separate vote on operative paragraphs 4, 13, 15 and 17 of the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted operative paragraphs 4, 13, 15 and 17 by a recorded vote of 88 to 1, with 55 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was then adopted by a recorded vote of 92 to 2, with 56 abstentions.

After the adoption of the resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and Kuwait.

Right of reply

The representative of Turkey made a statement in the exercise of the right of reply.

Organization of work

The Chairman made a statement.

The Committee was also informed of the draft proposals which would be introduced as well as the draft proposals which would be acted upon at its next meeting.

SIXTH COMMITTEE 30th and 31st meetings

Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [147]

Statements were made by the representatives of Panama (on behalf of the Rio Group), Norway (on behalf of the Nordic countries), Austria (on behalf of the European Union), Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The representative of Finland introduced draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.11.

It was announced that Bulgaria and Italy had joined as co-sponsors to the draft resolution.

The draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.11 was adopted without a vote. The representative of Mexico made a statement in explanation of his position after the adoption of the draft resolution.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this item.

United Nations Decade of International Law [149]

Statements were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the European Union), Panama (on behalf of the Rio Group), Algeria, Bahrain, Viet Nam (on behalf of ASEAN), Dominican Republic (also on behalf of the Central American States and Panama), Cameroon, the Russian Federation, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, the Netherlands and Guatemala

The Legal Counsel made a statement.

It was announced that the Ukraine had joined as co-sponsor to draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.12.

Review of the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal [156]

The draft decision A/C.6/53/L.10 was adopted without a vote.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this item.

Tuesday, 17 November 1998

SECURITY COUNCIL

3944th meeting

International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia

Letter dated 8 September 1998 from the President of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1998/839)

Letter dated 22 October 1998 from the President of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1998/990)

Letter dated 6 November 1998 from the President of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1998/1040)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representatives of Germany and Italy, at their request, to participate in the discussion on the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/1998/1082, which had been submitted by France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Slovenia joined as a sponsor of the draft resolution contained in document S/1998/1082.

The Council then proceeded to the vote on the draft resolution (S/1998/1082) before it.

Before the vote, the representative of China made a statement.

Decision: The draft resolution (S/1998/1082) received 14 votes in favour, none against and one abstention (China), and was adopted as resolution 1207 (1998).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

60th plenary meeting

Assistance in mine clearance [42]:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General (A/53/496);

(b) Draft resolution (A/53/L.28)

The representative of Austria (on behalf of the European Union and of Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia) made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolution A/53/L.28.

Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Japan, the United States, Norway, Australia, Yemen, Uruguay, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, the Republic of Korea, China, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, Egypt, Pakistan, the Sudan, Croatia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, San Marino and Angola.

The General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/53/L.28 (resolution 53/26).

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 42.

Committees

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE) 21st meeting

Questions relating to information [86]

The Committee concluded its general debate and heard statements by the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Austria (also on behalf of the European Union, the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia), and the associated country, Cyprus, as well as the EFTA country member of the EEA, Iceland), the Syrian Arab Republic, Nepal, Algeria, Haiti, Lebanon, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Russian Federation, Yemen, the Republic of Korea, Uruguay and Benin.

Statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Public Information, as well as by the Chairman.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, draft resolutions A and B and the draft decision contained in paragraph 48 of document A/53/21/Rev.1.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 86.

Organization of work

The Chairman made a statement.

THIRD COMMITTEE 48th meeting

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [105]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.52

The representative of the Russian Federation introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document.

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.54

The representative of Jordan introduced the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Guinea-Bissau, Kazakhstan and Mauritania.

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.55

The representative of Sweden introduced and orally revised the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Bolivia, Botswana, Cape Verde, Chad, Guinea, Malta, Paraguay, Swaziland and Uruguay.

Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [110 (b)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

Introduction of draft resolutions

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.46

The representative of France, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Cuba, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Sweden and the United States, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.50

The representative of Namibia, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Austria, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Guinea, the Philippines, the

Russian Federation, Togo, Ukraine and Venezuela, introduced the draft resolution.

Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives [110 (c)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

Introduction of draft resolutions

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.38

The representative of Austria, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.43

The representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Australia, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago, introduced and orally revised the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.47

The representative of Austria, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Portugal, introduced the draft resolution.

The representative of the Congo withdrew from the list of co-sponsors.

A statement was made by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.59

The representative of Sweden, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Estonia and the United States, introduced the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.61

The representative of the United States, on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, as well as Croatia, Iceland and the United Arab Emirates, introduced and orally revised the draft resolution.

Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [110 (b)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

Action on draft resolutions

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.32

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

It was announced that Madagascar, Panama, the Solomon Islands and Ukraine had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.36

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution by a recorded vote of 82 votes to 1 with 67 abstentions.

After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by Mexico and Chile in explanation of vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.42

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

It was announced that El Salvador, Guinea, Malawi, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected, without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.44

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

It was announced that Madagascar and Uganda had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.48

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

It was announced that El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Panama and the Russian Federation had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement.

Organization of work of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly

Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba and China, as well as by the Secretary and the Chairman.

SIXTH COMMITTEE 32nd and 33rd meetings

Note: The summary of the 32nd and 33rd meetings of the Sixth Committee will appear in the next issue of the *Journal* (No. 1998/223).

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Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Twenty-first session
United Nations Office at Geneva

TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 1998

356th and 357th meetings

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention [4]

The Committee considered the third periodic report of Hungary (CAT/C/34/Add.10). In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of the State party were present at the meetings, introduced the report submitted by their Government and replied to questions raised and comments made by the members of the Committee.

Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention [6]

The Committee considered the item in closed session.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Nineteenth session
United Nations Office at Geneva

TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 1998

31st and 32nd meetings

Consideration of reports [6]

(a) *Reports submitted by States parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant* [6]

The Committee considered the initial report of Israel (E/1990/5/Add.30). In accordance with rule 62 of the rules of procedure, representatives of the State party were present at the meetings and replied to questions raised and comments made by the members of the Committee.

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. London, 29 June 1990

Ratification: The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (9 November 1998)*

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Copenhagen, 25 November 1992

Ratification: The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (9 November 1998)*

Acceptance: Slovenia (13 November 1998)*

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Kyoto, 11 December 1997

Ratification: Tuvalu (16 November 1998)*

Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations. Tampere, 18 June 1998

Signature: Lebanon (17 November 1998)

Signature: United States of America (17 November 1998)

Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 4 November 1993

Acceptance: Ireland (16 November 1998)*

* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presentation of a gift

On behalf of the United Nations, the Secretary-General will accept a gift from the Governments of Kenya, Namibia and Nepal *today*, 18 November 1998, at 12 noon, at the north-west corner of the United Nations garden.

* * *

Special events

The third United Nations World Television Forum on the theme "The Future of Audio-visual Memory" will take place on 19 and 20 November 1998 in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. The Forum, organized by the Department of Public Information, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy and the Permanent Mission of Japan, will open on Thursday, 19 November, at 9.45 a.m. The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Dr. Didier Opertti, the Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy, H.E. Mr. Lamberto Dini, will address the Forum. Mr. Conrad Black, Chairman, Telegraph Group Ltd., will be the keynote speaker. The Forum provides a venue for an ongoing professional dialogue between the United Nations and the television industry, to highlight themes of common interest and identify specific areas for cooperation. The overall theme for Thursday, 19 November, will be "Looking at the 20th Century", and for Friday, 20 November, "Towards the 21st Century".

Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

* * *

On Tuesday, 24 November 1998, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) will hold a reading from 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., followed by a concert programme, entitled "A World Free of Violence", from 5.45 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Dag Hammarsjköld Library Auditorium, to mark the eve of the 16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women. Writers reading from their works will include E. M. Broner, Marilyn French, Grace Paley and Carol Jenkins. The concert programme will include works by Bach and Fauré. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

Also, on Tuesday, 24 November, an inter-agency exhibition, coordinated by UNIFEM, entitled "A Life Free of Violence against Women", will open at the North-East corner of the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building and will be displayed until 3 December 1998 and, from 3 to 11 December 1998, in the first basement of the Conference Building (near the Viennese Cafe).

For more detailed information about these events, please contact the office of UNIFEM (tel.: (212) 906-6339).

* * *

Film screening

There will be a screening of the film entitled "Intimate Portrait: Bella Abzug", on Thursday, 19 November 1998, at 12 noon, in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium. The screening is organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women, in cooperation with NGO Section of the Department of Public Information. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

* * *

Africa Industrialization Day

(20 November 1998)

On the occasion of Africa Industrialization Day, the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Dr. Didier Opertti, and the Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, will address the General Assembly on Friday, 20 November 1998, at 10 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

Material for insertion in the *Journal* should be addressed to room S-2940
(extensions 33888, 36771 and 36776) (fax number: 963-4790)
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Office opens at 4.30 p.m.

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